

Mayan Numeration System

The numeration system of the ancient Mayas used three symbols to describe many numbers. WARNING: their system is different from ours; open your mind to different ways of counting and see what you can figure out! ☺ Complete the chart below (continues on 2nd page) and see what numbers you can write with Mayan numerals.

Arabic	Mayan	Arabic	Mayan
1	•	8	••• -----
2	••	9	•••• -----
3	•••	10	----- -----
4	••••	15	----- ----- -----
5	-----	20	• ⦶
6	• -----	100	----- ⦶
7	•• -----	400	• ⦶ ⦶

Arabic	Mayan	Arabic	Mayan	Arabic	Mayan
1	•	19	•••• -----	100	----- ⦶
2	••	20	• ⦶	107	----- •• -----
3		21	• •	129	
4	••••	22		205	
5	-----	27		389	
6	• -----	31		406	

7		40		425	<div>•</div> <div>•</div> <div>-----</div>
10	<div>-----</div> <div>-----</div>	45		440	
14	<div>••••</div> <div>-----</div>	50	<div>••</div> <div>-----</div>	1227	
16		75		1230	
17		93		8421	

Now try to use the numbers to complete the following problems.

- Write your age in Mayan numerals:
- Write the corresponding Arabic equivalent for the following numbers written below:

•

••

=

=

- Write the answer to the following equation in Mayan numerals: 201 + 32 =
- Complete the following equation:

••

+

=

•

⦶

- Explain how place value is *or isn't* used in each of the following numeration systems. Be specific.
 - Arabic (ours)
 - Egyptian
 - Mayan